

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited via facsimile addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 16, 2003	
Richard L. Alexander	52,863
Name of Attorney/Agent	Registration No.
<i>[Signature]</i>	
Signature of Attorney	

P&G Case 8494

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of

Michael Donovan Mitchell, et al.

Serial No. 09/832,581

Filed April 11, 2001

: Confirmation No. 3612

: Group Art Unit 1724

: Primary Examiner Ivars C. Cintins

For **FILTERS AND FILTER MATERIALS FOR THE REMOVAL OF MICROORGANISMS
AND PROCESSES FOR USING THE SAME**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 16, 2002

Mail Stop Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

07/08/2003 TWODRUF 00000001 162400 0837531
02 FC:1253 930.00.00
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a) has been filed concurrently herewith this Response and should be treated as a constructive petition for the purpose of extending the period for responding to the above-described Office Action for three (3) months from March 16, 2003 to June 16, 2003. As such, this Response is timely filed.

Please amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 15, 30, 36, and 46-52 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 4-9, 12-14, 16, 17, 26, 27, 29, 31, 32, 35, 37, 38, 41-45 as follows:

- B₁*
1. (Amended) A filter for removing microorganisms from a fluid, comprising:
 - a) a housing having an inlet and an outlet; and
 - b) a filter material disposed within said housing, said filter material formed at least in part from a plurality of filter particles comprising a carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating.
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- B₂*
4. (Amended) The filter of claim 1, wherein the carbon add-on in said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating is between about 0.1% and about 85%.